

A bill for the relief of the estate of Jabez Fitzgerald, dec'd.

A bill for the relief of William M. Cristy ;

And a bill to make valid the use of certain seals by the officers of the county court of Galveston county.

The report of the committee on Privileges and Elections, on the contested election from the 25th Senatorial District, was read and adopted.

The following bills from the House were severally read first time, to wit:

A bill giving two weeks session to the district court of Montgomery county.

A bill for the relief of Philip Evans.

A bill appropriating five thousand dollars to pay the contingent expenses of both Houses of the Legislature.

A bill to locate permanently the county seat of Lavaca county, and,

Joint resolution to remove law books in the office of the Secretary of State, to the supreme court room, for the use of the Judges of said court.

Mr. Burleson, chairman of the committee on the Militia, to whom was referred the petition of Casimiro Garcia, reported a bill for his relief, which was read first time.

On motion of Mr. Hart, the Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, November 19, 1851.

The Senate was called to order by the President, pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Rev. Mr. Baggerly—roll called—quorum present.

The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Eddy presented the petition of William A. Droddy and Mary J. Nugent; referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Armstrong, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred a bill for the relief of Haden Arnold, dec'd. reported the same back and recommended its passage.

Mr. Gray made the following Report:

The committee on the Judiciary have considered the bill "concerning estates of deceased soldiers" together with the amendments proposed thereto, and instruct me to recommend

the adoption of the amendments annexed, and the passage of the bill.

Amendments—In 3d section, 4th line, after the word “soldiers,” insert “without the authority contemplated by this act.” Same section, 5th line, after the word “administrators,” insert, “to receive from any officer of the State, or other person, any patent, or land claim, money or evidence of debt, to which such deceased soldier may have been entitled, nor”.

Substitute for section 4.—In all cases where administration has been granted on estates of deceased soldiers, without the authority contemplated by this act, it shall be the duty of the Chief Justice of the county courts granting the same, to cause the administrators to be notified as in other cases, to file in court, the authority or consent aforesaid; and in case of failure so to do, they shall order the removal of such administrators, and also to require them to deliver to the clerk of the court, all the property and title papers in their possession belonging to the estate; and it shall also be the duty of such administrators, or clerk of the court having possession of such property, to deliver the same to the heirs of such deceased soldiers, or their legally authorized agent on demand.

Section 5. This act shall be in force from its passage.

Mr. Bigelow, from the committee on the Judiciary, made the following report:

The committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an act authorizing the several counties of the State to levy a special tax for county purposes, have had the same under consideration, and instructed me to report the bill back to the Senate with the following amendments, and recommend its passage: After the word “county court” in the last line of the first section, add “provided that nothing in this act shall be so construed as to affect any special act authorizing county courts to levy a special, or additional tax, for county purposes, passed at this session of the Legislature; and in the third line of the third section, strike out the word “January” and insert “February.” Which is respectfully submitted.

Mr. Wilson, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred a bill to incorporate Battle Creek Academy, in the county of Navarro, reported the same back and recommended its passage.

Mr. Reaves, from the committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred a bill to admit Roger Q. Mills to practice law in the courts of this State, report the same back and recommend its passage.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, Mr. Day was excused from attending on the Senate, on account of sickness.

On motion of Mr. Sterne, Mr. Merriman was excused from attendance on the Senate, for the same reason.

Mr. Eddy introduced a joint resolution instructing our Senators, and requesting our Representatives in the Congress of the United States, to procure the establishment of a mail route from Sabine Pass to Jefferson, in Cass county; read first time.

Mr. Scott introduced a bill for the relief of John W. Tilden; read first time.

Mr. Gray introduced a bill to provide a mode of changing a person's name; read first time.

Mr. Burleson introduced a bill for the relief of Edward B. Wood; and a bill supplementary to an act to regulate the pay of volunteers in the service of Texas in the year 1842, approved December 3d, 1850; read first time.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY.

A bill to abolish implied or secret liens on real estate, together with the report of the committee on the Judiciary, was read, and bill ordered to be engrossed.

A bill to require the return of field notes in certain cases, with the report of the committee on State Affairs, offering amendments thereto, was read; and, on motion of Mr. Taylor, laid on the table.

A bill for the relief of Ambrose Hillburn. Mr. Davis moved to lay the bill on the table—lost.

On motion of Mr. Hart, the bill was amended by striking out the words "which may be issued in two certificates."

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed.

The report of the committee on the Judiciary, on a bill to legalize certain records of the county court of Lamar county, offering amendments thereto, was read; report adopted and bill ordered to be engrossed.

The report of the committee on State Affairs, on the petition of Paul G. Swift, was read and adopted.

The resolution of the Senate, requesting the committee on Printing and Contingent Expenses to ascertain whether the papers and other public documents subscribed for, and printed by order of the Senate, are regularly mailed, &c., was read and adopted.

The resolution of the Senate, instructing the committee on Indian Affairs to enquire into the expediency of making provisions for the temporary settlement of some of the weaker and more defenceless tribes or bands of Indians, &c., was read and adopted.

The resolution of the Senate, requesting the committee on State Affairs, to take into consideration the importance of providing some mode by which slaves, who have or may hereafter run away from an owner in this State, &c., may be recovered; read and adopted.

A bill to amend an act regulating the public printing, approved March 8, 1848; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Parker, referred to the committee on Printing.

Joint resolution to remove law books in the office of the Secretary of State, to the supreme court room for the use of the judges of said court, &c.; read second time and passed to a third reading.

Mr. Sterne moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days, upon which the yeas and nays were as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Armstrong, Bigelow, Bogart, Burks, Burleson, Davis, Doane, Eddy, Gray, Grimes, Hart, Kinney, Meusebach, Parker, Reaves, Scott, Sterne, Taylor, Truit, Williams and Wilson—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Dancy, Duggan and Hill—3; carried.

The resolution was then read third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Parker, the vote which passed the resolution was reconsidered, and the resolution amended by adding,

“Sec. 2. Be it further resolved, that this joint resolution take effect from and after its passage.”

Mr. Scott offered the following amendment to come in at the end of 1st section:

“And that the judges of the supreme court shall be liable for the value of said books in the event of a failure to return the same.”

Mr. Wilson offered the following as a substitute for the amendment:

“Provided, that the supreme court shall first adopt a rule that none of such books shall be removed from the court-room while they remain under charge of the court, and that a certified copy of said rule shall be filed with the Secretary of State, before the said books shall be removed from the State Department;” adopted, and the amendment rejected, and joint resolution passed.

A bill appropriating five thousand dollars to pay the contingent expenses of both Houses of the Legislature; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Burleson, referred to the committee on Finance.

A bill for the relief of William Grooms and Thomas N. Little; read second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

A bill to regulate the sales of sheriffs and other officers, &c. read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Eddy, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A bill regulating sales by administrators and executors; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Eddy, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to amend the 17th section of the act to incorporate the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado rail-road company; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Gray, referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

A bill to authorize David Hill to construct a bridge across the Sabine river; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Reaves, referred to the committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

A bill for the relief of Charles Chevallier, assignee of Napoleon Devaltz; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Taylor, referred to the committee on Public Lands.

A bill to authorize the commissioner of the General Land Office to issue patents in certain cases; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Taylor, referred to the committee on Public Lands.

A bill granting to the owners of slaves which may be executed, one half the value of such slaves; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Williams, laid on the table until Monday, the 24th inst.

A bill for the relief of William Grinder; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Scott, laid on the table until Monday, the 24th inst.

A bill for the relief of Casimiro Garcia; read second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

A bill giving two weeks session to the district court of Montgomery county,; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Scott, referred to the special committee on Judicial Districts.

A bill for the relief of Philip Evans; read second time, and on motion of Mr. Parker, referred to the committee on State Affairs.

A bill to locate permanently the county seat of Lavaca county; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Duggan, referred to the committee on Counties and County Boundaries.

A bill to amend an act to permanently locate the seat of justice of Denton county, approved November 26, 1850; read third time and passed.

A bill to authorize the county court of Smith county to levy an

additional tax for the purpose of building a courthouse; read third time and passed.

The report of the committee on State Affairs, on a bill to repeal an act authorizing the county courts to issue unconditional certificates in certain cases, was read, and, on motion of Mr. Williams, laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Meusebach, the Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, November 20, 1851.

The Senate was called to order by the President *pro tem*—pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Rev. Mr. Baggerly—roll called—quorum present.

The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

A message was received from the House, informing the Senate that the House had passed the following bills, which originated in the Senate, to wit:

A bill to amend an act to create the county of Freestone.—A bill to incorporate the town of Jasper.—A bill to authorize the county court of Cameron county to levy a special tax for two years, and, a bill to incorporate the Jasper Collegiate Institute. Also that the House concurred in the amendment of the Senate, to the joint resolution to remove the law books in the office of Secretary of State to the supreme court room, for the use of said Judges, &c.

Mr. Taylor, chairman of the committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Samuel G. Powell, reported a bill for the relief of the heirs of Seeman Kelsey: read first time.

Mr. Taylor, from the same committee, made the following report:

Your committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of John Bethea, have examined the same, and find it to be one of those cases of head right certificates not recommended by the traveling board of land commissioners.—They are of opinion that it is inexpedient to act upon the original certificate, as the second section of the eleventh article of the constitution has declared them null and void. But a majority of the committee are of opinion that it is within the province of the Legislature to make a donation in such cases. In accor-